EXHIBIT C

Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of the Governor

Executive Order

NUMBER THIRTY-FIVE (2024)

COMPREHENSIVE ELECTION SECURITY PROTECTING
LEGAL VOTERS AND ACCURATE COUNTING

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor, I hereby issue this Executive Order to protect the casting of legal ballots by legally eligible voters in Virginia's elections, including with stringent ballot security, complete and thorough counting machine testing, and best-in-the-nation voter list maintenance.

Importance of Initiative

In Virginia, we have established a comprehensive approach and continuous improvement process for election security, which is necessary to ensure that individuals cast legal votes. The Virginia model for securing elections has proven itself over the past few years despite the significant expansion of voting days and locations and the lingering effects of the pandemic on state and local governments. Under my Administration, Virginia has made unprecedented strides in improving the accuracy of our voter list including substantial updates for removal of deceased voters and protection against non-citizen registration.

Recent improvements we have made include establishing comprehensive data-sharing agreements with seven states and receiving additional data from 42 states.

We conducted multiple National Change of Address mailings over the past two years and will continue to conduct them. This process identifies individuals who no longer reside in Virginia. The streamlined process for eliminating deceased voters includes accessing a national death record database and conducting a comprehensive audit. This resulted in us removing 79,867 deceased voters in 2023.

Virginia is one of only three states in the nation that require those registering to vote to provide their full 9-digit social security number for registration. Over ninety percent of voters in Virginia submit electronic registration applications online through the Department of Elections (ELECT), which requires a valid Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) credential, or submit registration applications when conducting transactions with DMV.

DMV requires applicants to submit proof of identity and legal presence for those that do not yet hold a valid Virginia credential. When issuing a credential such as a driver's license, DMV verifies applicants' proof of identity and legal status with the Department Homeland Security Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) database and the Social Security Administration database.

All data collected by the DMV that identifies non-citizens is shared with ELECT, which uses it to scrub existing voter rolls and remove non-citizens who may have purposefully or accidentally registered to vote. According to data from ELECT, between January 2022 and July 2024, records indicate we removed 6,303 non-citizens from the voter rolls.

Executive Order 31 reinforced the need for timeliness of interagency data. The multi-agency data sharing protocols and standards developed by the working group called for in the Executive Order ensure the accuracy, reliability, privacy, and timeliness of the data used for list maintenance.

The audits we conduct of Virginia's list maintenance practices have not only been effective but have also earned national recognition for robust list maintenance improvements and new initiatives. This recognition is a testament to the fairness, transparency, and legality of Virginia's voting process, which includes:

- 100% paper ballots which provide a physical record of the voter's intent
- Use of paper ballot counting machines, not voting machines
- Strict chain of custody for ballots with daily reconciliation during early voting
- Application required to receive a mail ballot - no mass mailing of ballots
- Counting machines tested prior to every election
- Counting machines not connected to the internet
- Drop boxes under 24/7 monitoring

As we continue to make improvements, the Commonwealth will remain steadfast in its efforts to provide Virginians with the confidence they deserve in their elections. Our election security model is designed to prevent illegal votes and guarantee legal votes are accurately counted. However, security procedures can only be as strong as the state and federal law which governs voting. Further strengthening of Virginia's election security system will rely on strengthening state and federal law.

Directive

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth, and pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of Virginia and the laws of the Commonwealth, I hereby direct all relevant Secretariats and Agencies to take the following actions:

Certification of Election Security Procedures

In order to maintain the collaboration and coordination between internal and external parties necessary to maintain the highest level of security, the Commissioner of the Department of

Elections shall certify annually in writing to the Governor that the following election security procedures are in place, including the training of registrars regarding these critical procedures, and that the Commonwealth's system of checks and balances to maintain secure elections is functioning optimally.

1. Ballot Security:
   a. There is a documented chain of custody for paper ballots with daily reconciliation during early voting.
   b. Ballots are tracked through every step of the process.
   c. In precincts on election day and during early voting, ballots cast are reconciled against the number of voters checked in and number of ballots distributed to voters.
   d. Absentee ballots must be requested by a registered voter before being mailed.
   e. Marked absentee ballots may not be counted until the last four digits of a voter's social security number and year of birth provided on the envelope are matched to the voter's record in the statewide voter registration system.
   f. Use of provisional ballots for the Same Day Registration process, which requires that these ballots are not counted in the precinct but go back to the registrar's office for determination of eligibility and adjudication by the Electoral Board.
   g. 100% paper ballots are used in Virginia and are retained by clerks of court for 22 months.

2. Counting Machine Testing and Certification
   a. Virginia does not use "voting machines" just paper ballot counting machines.
   b. No ballot counting machines are connected to the internet.
   c. All counting machines are certified to state and federal standards.
   d. Every piece of equipment utilized in the voting and counting process, such as electronic pollbooks, is tested before use in a polling place.

3. Triple-Check of Election Result Accuracy
   a. Officers of election check election results at the precinct level on election night.
   b. Electoral Boards check elections results at the locality level in the post-election canvass.
   c. Department of Elections staff check elections results at the state level through results review and audits prior to certification.

Certification of Accuracy of Voter Lists

The Commissioner of the Department of Elections shall certify in writing to the Governor that the following election security procedures are in place to protect voter lists:

1. Daily Updates to the Voter List to:
   a. Add new eligible voters.
   b. Remove voters who have moved in accordance with federal and state law.
   c. Remove deceased voters.

d. Remove ineligible voters, including felons and mentally incapacitated.
e. Remove individuals who are unable to verify that they are citizens to the Department of Motor Vehicles from the statewide voter registration list, should that individual either intentionally or unintentionally attempt to register to vote, in accordance with federal and state law.
f. The Department of Elections compares the list of individuals who have been identified as non-citizens to the list of existing registered voters and then registrars notify any matches of their pending cancellation unless they affirm their citizenship within 14 days.

2. When issuing a credential such as a driver's license, DMV verifies applicants' proof of identity and legal status with the Department Homeland Security Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) database and the Social Security Administration database.

Referral for False Claims of Citizenship

The Department of Motor Vehicles shall expedite the interagency data sharing with the Department of Elections of non-citizens by generating a daily file of all non-citizens transactions, including addresses and document numbers.

In accordance with the *Code of Virginia* § 24.2-429, all registrars are required to cancel the registrations of non-citizens who have registered to vote in a local, state, or federal election by falsely claiming that they are a citizen, including the forging of documentation or any other means of improper registration. *Code of Virginia* § 24.2-1019 additionally requires said registrars to immediately notify the Commonwealth's Attorney for their jurisdiction of this alleged unlawful conduct. Additionally, the Office of the Attorney General has full authority to enforce election laws pursuant to *Code of Virginia* § 24.2-104.

Awareness Campaign for Election Security

The Department of Elections shall encourage and provide information to all general registrars to post or provide to voters directly regarding election-related offenses and their punishments (Title 24.2, Chapter 10 of the *Code of Virginia*), including:

- § 24.2-1000. Intimidation and threats toward election officials; penalty.
- § 24.2-1002.1. Unlawful disclosure or use of social security number or part thereof.
- § 24.2-1004. Illegal voting and registrations.
- § 24.2-1009. Stealing or tampering with ballot containers, voting or registration equipment, software, records or documents.
- § 24.2-1007. Soliciting or accepting bribe to influence or procure vote.
- § 24.2-1016. False statements; penalties.

All state agencies that register individuals to vote shall post the aforementioned information in a conspicuous place or provide it to applicants directly.

Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 7th day of August, 2024.

Glenn Youngkin, Governor

Attest:

Kelly Gee, Secretary of the Commonwealth